UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/45/330
12 July 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
Item 78 of the preliminary list*

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

Report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations

Rapporteur: Mr. Gehad Refaat MADI (Egypt)

1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/49 of 8 December 1989, took note of the report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations (A/44/301) and urged the Special Committee, inter alia, in accordance with its mandate, to continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects with a view to strengthening the role of the United Nations in that field, taking into account the difficult financial situation of peace-keeping operations and the need for maximum cost-efficiency.

2. In paragraphs 17, 18 and 19 of the resolution, the General Assembly invited Member States to submit any further observations and suggestions to the Secretary-General by 1 March 1990 on peace-keeping operations in all their aspects, with particular emphasis on practical proposals to make those operations more effective; requested the Secretary-General to prepare, within existing resources, a compilation of the above-mentioned observations and suggestions and to submit it to the Special Committee during its session in 1990; and requested the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

3. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and 43/59 B of 6 December 1988, the Special Committee is composed of the following Member States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, France, German Democratic Republic, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Mauritania, Mexico, Netherlands,

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Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Sierra Leone, Spain, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

4. The Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations held five meetings, on 7 to 10 May and 29 June 1990.

5. At its 94th meeting, held on 7 May, the Special Committee elected the following representatives as the Committee's officers for a term of one year: Ambassador Ibrahim A. Gambari (Nigeria), as Chairman; Mr. Alejandro Nieto (Argentina), Ambassador Philippe Kirsch (Canada), Mr. Shigeki Sumi (Japan) and Mr. Kurt Kutschan (German Democratic Republic), as Vice-Chairmen; and Mr. Gehad Refaat Madi (Egypt), as Rapporteur.

6. The Special Committee also discussed its organization of work and decided to establish an open-ended working group to consider the substance of the mandate entrusted to the Special Committee by the General Assembly. The Committee also decided to entrust Ambassador Philippe Kirsch (Canada) with the chairmanship of the open-ended working group.

7. The Special Committee, in accordance with paragraph 16 of General Assembly resolution 44/49, received requests for observer status from the permanent missions to the United Nations of Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Fiji, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Honduras, Ireland, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Senegal, Singapore, Sweden, Turkey and Uruguay, took note of their request and welcomed their participation in the meetings of the Special Committee and its open-ended working group as observers.

8. As a basis for its discussion, the Special Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/AC.121/37 and Add.1-4) containing further observations and suggestions put forward by Member States at the request of the General Assembly in paragraph 17 of its resolution 44/49.

9. At its 95th to 97th meetings, held on 8, 9 and 10 May, the Special Committee held a general debate and an exchange of views on the matters before it.

10. At the invitation of the Special Committee, at its 97th meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs made a presentation on the Secretariat perspectives on various issues relating to United Nations peace-keeping operations. He also made a presentation before the working group during its 8th meeting.

11. In accordance with the Special Committee's directives, the open-ended working group held 14 meetings between 15 May and 29 June.

12. At its 1st meeting, held on 15 May, the working group, after an extensive exchange of views on its mandate, decided to entrust the Bureau with the task of streamlining and reformulating all the proposals and suggestions submitted by Member States as contained in the Secretary-General's report (A/AC.121/37 and Add.1-4).

13. The Bureau, in accordance with that decision, submitted a working paper to the working group for its consideration (see annex).

14. At its 2nd to 7th meetings, held from 29 May to 5 June, the working group had before it the working paper submitted by the Bureau as a basis for its consideration and discussion.

15. At its 2nd and 3rd meetings, held on 29 and 30 May, the working group deliberated on part A of the Bureau's working paper (Resources), and it was felt that the Secretary-General's report on requirements for United Nations peace-keeping operations (A/45/217) and replies by Member States to his questionnaire thereon should facilitate the establishment of a registry, indicative in nature, of potential contributions by Member States of personnel, material and technical resources and services.

16. It was generally understood that the discussion on the needs of the United Nations in human and physical resources and the availability of such resources would be best dealt with after Member States reply to the questionnaire.

17. It was emphasized that the proposal for establishing a reserve stock of United Nations-owned material and equipment needed to be examined further, particularly in the light of the report currently being prepared by the Secretary-General.

18. In considering the issues related to the increased use of civilian personnel in peace-keeping operations as well as the balance between the military and civilian components in such operations, some delegations called attention to the suggestions put forward in the relevant sections of the Secretary-General's report entitled, "Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of United Nations peace-keeping operations" (A/44/605 and Add.1-2). Others noted that the Secretary-General's report to be submitted to the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly dealing with the role of civilian personnel and identifying those tasks and services which might be performed by them in peace-keeping operations would provide a better basis for further discussion on the subject.

19. On the possible application of high technology to peace-keeping operations, the issues of economic feasibility as well as political advisability of using such technology in this field were raised. It was felt, therefore, that further discussion on the subject would be needed. In the course of the discussion, the Canadian delegation presented a study on "overhead remote sensing for United Nations peace-keeping", which was highly appreciated by the working group.

20. At its 3rd and 4th meetings, held on 30 and 31 May, the working group discussed the issues related to the financial resources of peace-keeping operations, which appear in part B of the Bureau's working paper. It was reiterated that peace-keeping operations should be based on a sound and secure financial foundation. It was also reiterated that Member States should fulfil their obligation to pay their assessed contributions in full and on time. Some delegations noted that the formula of apportionment should appropriately reflect the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council and take into account the relatively limited capacity of the developing countries to

contribute in financial terms. They also stressed that the special formula currently in use for most of the peace-keeping operations should be continued. In recognizing the financial difficulties facing the start-up phase of peace-keeping operations, it was considered essential that ways and means should be found to secure the financing of that phase.

21. It was emphasized that, in order to alleviate the heavy financial burden on the troop-contributing countries, especially that of developing countries, every effort should be made to ensure early reimbursement of their outstanding dues.

22. It was maintained that voluntary contributions by Member States, that are acceptable to the Secretary-General should be further encouraged. The view was expressed that sources of financing of peace-keeping operations should be diversified.

23. It was stressed that peace-keeping operations should be conducted in an efficient and cost-effective manner. In this connection it was emphasized that the Secretary-General should continue to examine all aspects of peace-keeping operations with a view to effecting maximum economy in expenditure.

24. While the financial aspects of peace-keeping operations constituted an integral part of the mandate of the Special Committee, it was stated by some delegations that details of the financial issues would be better discussed in other organs of the United Nations in order to avoid, as much as possible, duplication of the work in this field.

25. At its 4th and 5th meetings, held on 31 May and 1 June, the working group turned to the discussion of the legal and operational issues contained in part C of the Bureau's working paper. It was noted anew that it was of utmost importance that, in order to ensure the smooth implementation of United Nations peace-keeping operations, host countries of any United Nations peace-keeping operation should conclude status-of-force agreements with the United Nations as soon as possible upon the establishment of such operations.

26. It was emphasized that, in order to further facilitate the implementation and the smooth conduct of the United Nations peace-keeping operations, the United Nations should enter into agreements with Member States contributing personnel to peace-keeping operations. In that context, the initiative of the Secretary-General in preparing a model agreement between the United Nations and those Member States was welcomed, bearing in mind that such a model agreement should be flexible in nature to encompass different possible circumstances.

27. The issues of establishing political and legal principles for peace-keeping operations or defining such operations were considered with a great deal of caution. It was maintained that, for the proper and effective functioning of peace-keeping operations, they should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, with the necessary degree of flexibility.

28. With regard to the issues relating to host countries of the United Nations peace-keeping operations, it was emphasized that host countries and all other

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directly interested parties should extend all possible support so as to facilitate the deployment and functioning of such operations and the fulfilment of their mandate. It was also stressed that host countries and all directly interested parties should respect and safeguard the security of United Nations peace-keepers.

29. The desirability of rotation among personnel contributors in long-servicing peace-keeping operations was stressed by some delegations. It was noted that the composition of United Nations peace-keeping operations, taken as a whole, should be on a wide geographical basis, while the composition of each operation would be consistent with its particular requirements.

30. The successfully concluded United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) operation in Namibia was highly praised by the working group, and it was considered useful for the work of the Special Committee to have more information about that operation. It was therefore suggested that a request should be made to the Secretary-General to prepare a detailed report on the operation.

31. It was considered of utmost importance to maintain the flow of information on peace-keeping operations between the United Nations Secretariat and Member States in order to enhance their co-operation in that field. Accordingly, it was emphasized that the Secretariat should be encouraged to continue its practice of providing regular informal briefings on current and potential peace-keeping operations.

32. International and regional seminars that had been held upon the initiative of some Member States were welcomed. It was felt that, in order to further promote the exchange of information and experiences on peace-keeping operations between Member States, interested organizations and the United Nations Secretariat, Member States should be encouraged to continue to hold such seminars in the future.

33. With respect to issues related to training, it was generally understood that the completion of training manuals by the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 44/49, would provide guidelines to those Member States intending to establish training programmes for personnel participating in peace-keeping operations. In that context, it was also indicated that Member States with national or regional training programmes should be encouraged to give access to those programmes, as appropriate, to other interested Member States.

34. The working group exchanged views on the institutional issues in part D of the Bureau's working paper at its 5th and 6th meetings, held on 1 and 4 June. It was maintained that, in order to ensure accurate and useful discussions on institutional issues relating to the Secretariat, the Secretary-General should be requested to prepare a factual report, describing the responsibilities, functions and structures of the various Secretariat units dealing with peace-keeping operations, including details of overload posts. The establishment by the Secretary-General of the Senior Planning and Monitoring Group for Peace-keeping Operations was highly welcomed and the hope was expressed that such a constructive step would lead to more effective co-ordination and improve advance planning for peace-keeping operations.

35. The working group considered a suggestion put forward by some delegations for the establishment of an informal expert group within the framework of the Special Committee to provide personnel contributors and other interested States with an opportunity to exchange views on an inter-sessional basis on technical and operational aspects of the United Nations peace-keeping operations. While some participants expressed doubts on the utility of such an arrangement, others expressed reservations on the creation of any new institutional mechanism, whether formal or informal in nature. It was further stressed that any such arrangement should not result in the encroachment on the mandate and functions of the Special Committee and other competent United Nations organs. It was felt that personnel contributors and other interested States wishing to hold informal consultations on practical and technical matters related to practical aspects of peace-keeping operations should be encouraged to do so, as appropriate.

36. At its 6th and 7th meetings, held on 4 and 5 June, the working group discussed issues relating to uses of peace-keeping, which appear in part E of the Bureau's working paper. In that context, a very cautious approach was suggested as to the possible application of peace-keeping operations to fields that are far beyond the traditional concept of peace-keeping that has evolved in the course of the last four decades and in ways that, in some cases, might imply enforcement measures. Meanwhile, it was considered useful to hold further discussions, in the appropriate forums, including the Special Committee, on the possible fields for peace-keeping and on the further development of peace-keeping operations.

37. At the same meeting, the working group considered part F of the Bureau's working paper relating to other issues. It was emphasized that the international community should recognize the services and sacrifices of the United Nations peace-keepers over more than 40 years of dedication to the cause of peace. Consequently, it was suggested that the Secretary-General should consider appropriate ways of honouring the services of peace-keepers and their having been awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1988.

38. In the course of the discussion on this part of the working paper, many delegations welcomed the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the Council on 30 May 1990 (S/21323), in connection with the consideration by the Council of the item entitled "United Nations peace-keeping operations". They considered it important that the Council reached an agreement on the issue for the first time.

39. As a result of its consideration of the suggestions and proposals submitted by Member States contained in the Secretary-General's report (A/AC.121/37 and Add.1-4), and of the Bureau's working paper, the working group submitted the following conclusions and recommendations to the Special Committee for its approval and transmittal to the General Assembly:

(a) The Special Committee notes with appreciation the preparation by the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/49, of his report on requirements for United Nations peace-keeping operations (A/45/217) and of a questionnaire on that subject. The Special Committee invites Member States to complete the questionnaire as soon as possible, in order to facilitate the early

preparation by the Secretary-General of a registry, indicative in nature, of potential contributions by Member States of personnel, material and technical resources and services.

(b) The Special Committee looks forward to the completion by the Secretary-General of the other studies and documents requested in resolution 44/49.

(c) The Special Committee emphasizes again the need to ensure a secure and sound financial basis for United Nations peace-keeping operations. The Special Committee reiterates its call on all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full and on time. It encourages again those States which can do so to make voluntary contributions that are acceptable to the Secretary-General.

(d) The Special Committee, aware of the heavy burden on the troop contributors, especially those from developing countries, stresses the importance of the need to reimburse outstanding dues of troop-contributing countries.

(e) The Special Committee requests the General Assembly to consider, in the competent bodies, as a matter of priority, practical means of adequately securing the financing of the start-up phase of peace-keeping operations.

(f) The Special Committee encourages the Secretary-General to continue to examine all aspects of peace-keeping operations in order to ensure that they are conducted in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

(g) The Special Committee welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General in preparing a model agreement between the United Nations and Member States contributing personnel to peace-keeping operations, while maintaining the flexibility needed to encompass different possible circumstances.

(h) The Special Committee reiterates its appeal to host countries of any United Nations peace-keeping operations and all directly interested parties to extend all possible support in order to facilitate the deployment and functioning of such operations, and urges them to respect and safeguard the security of United Nations peace-keepers. The Special Committee again urges host countries to conclude status-of-forces agreements with the United Nations as soon as possible upon the establishment of a peace-keeping operation.

(i) The Special Committee considers that the composition of United Nations peace-keeping operations, taken as a whole, should be on a wide geographical basis, while the composition of each operation would be consistent with the particular requirements thereof.

(j) The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to prepare a detailed report on the successfully concluded UNTAG operation.

(k) The Special Committee welcomes the seminars and other exchanges of views on peace-keeping operations among Member States and interested organizations, with the participation of Secretariat officials, that have taken place since its last meeting and encourages the holding of regional and international seminars, in consultation with the Secretariat, as appropriate, in the future.

(l) The Special Committee again encourages Member States to establish training programmes for personnel for peace-keeping operations and looks forward to the completion by the Secretary-General, in accordance with resolution 44/49, of training manuals, which Member States might wish to use as guidelines for their training programmes. The Special Committee also encourages those Member States with national or regional training programmes to give access to those programmes, as appropriate, to other interested Member States.

(m) The Special Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to prepare for Member States a factual report describing the responsibilities, functions and structures of the various Secretariat units dealing with peace-keeping operations, including details of overload posts.

(n) The Special Committee encourages studies on the possible application of high technology to peace-keeping operations, where it would enhance their efficiency.

(o) The Special Committee considers it useful to have further discussions, in the appropriate forums, including the Special Committee, on the possible fields for peace-keeping and on the further development of peace-keeping operations.

(p) The Special Committee recommends that the General Assembly invite the Secretary-General to consider appropriate ways of honouring the services of United Nations peace-keepers, bearing in mind that the United Nations peace-keeping forces were awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1988.

(q) The Special Committee stresses the importance of maintaining the flow of information between the United Nations Secretariat and Member States, and encourages the Secretariat to continue its practice of providing regular informal briefings on current and potential peace-keeping operations.

(r) The Special Committee encourages States contributing personnel and other interested States to hold informal consultations, as appropriate, on operational and technical matters relating to the practical aspects of peace-keeping operations.

(s) The Special Committee notes with appreciation the contribution to its work of the Secretariat of the United Nations and would welcome the further development of this co-operation. The Special Committee would also welcome the contribution to its work of experts and bodies having specialized expertise in peace-keeping and the conduct of peace-keeping operations.

(t) The Special Committee recommends that the General Assembly renew the mandate of the Committee so that it can continue its efforts towards the completion of its work for submission to the Assembly.

40. At its 98th meeting, on 29 June, the Special Committee considered and adopted its report to the General Assembly.

ANNEX

Bureau working paper

Cover note

At the meeting of 15 May of the open-ended working group of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, the Bureau of the Committee was requested to streamline and reformulate the list of proposals submitted by delegations.

In response to that request and in order to facilitate discussion, the proposals, which are substantively similar to the original proposals, have been grouped by the Bureau in six categories, which themselves contain different types of proposals. In doing so the Bureau recognizes that some proposals may belong to more than one category and that, at this preliminary stage of its work, the divisions that have been made are necessarily of a provisional nature.

APPENDIX

Proposals on peace-keeping

CONTENTS

		Page
A.	RESOURCES	11
	1. Requirements and availability of resources	11
	2. Civilian personnel	11
	3. High technology	11
B.	FINANCING	12
	1. Sources and modalities of financing	12
	2. Responsibilities of States and of the United Nations	13
	3. Cost-effectiveness	13
C.	LEGAL AND OPERATIONAL ISSUES	13
	1. Legal issues and standard agreements	13
	2. Issues relating to host countries	14
	3. Issues relating to contributing countries	14
	4. Effectiveness of operations	15
	5. Training	15
D.	INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES	16
	1. Issues relating to the United Nations Secretariat	16
	2. Other institutional issues	17
E.	USES OF PEACE-KEEPING	17
F.	OTHER ISSUES	19

A. Resources

1. Requirements and availability of resources

(a) The requirements of peace-keeping operations should be discussed, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General.

(b) Parts of the registry of potential contributions to be established should be presented also to international organizations and economic corporations.

(c) A list of experts for fact-finding, technical and good offices missions should be made available and continuously updated by Member States.

(d) More stand-by forces and stand-by observers should be at the disposal of the Secretary-General.

(e) The costs and benefits of building a United Nations-owned reserve stock should be studied, as well as the use of a data bank on nationally owned stocks as an alternative.

(f) The number of providers of equipment and services should be expanded and a reserve stock of material and equipment should be established on a national and regional basis. A roster of countries willing to make contributions should be developed.

(g) The existing capacities of the United Nations, specialized agencies or regional organizations should be utilized.

2. Civilian personnel

(a) A study of the optimum balance of military and civilian components in peace-keeping operations should be conducted.

(b) The Special Committee should consider undertaking a study to identify those support tasks and services which could be performed by civilian personnel, bearing in mind the suggestions put forward by the Secretary-General in his report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session (A/44/605).

3. High technology

(a) The Secretary-General should be requested to set out proposals to exploit the applications of high technology where this would enhance efficiency.

(b) High technology should be introduced into the operations and a multifaceted study should be conducted on the issue.

(c) Continuing studies, based on those already existing, should be undertaken, preferably by a number of countries in collaboration, with the aim of developing guidelines for application in the field.

(d) Trials should be undertaken, with the consent of host countries where necessary, to demonstrate practical application in the field. Member States should be encouraged to lend equipment for the purpose of those trials.

B. Financing

The Special Committee should examine and discuss budgetary aspects of activities and operations in order to ensure a sound budgetary basis for the entire system.

1. Sources and modalities of financing

(a) The principle of a sound and secure financing through assessed contributions without exception, and payment of assessed contributions in full and on time, should be accepted.

(b) The formula of apportionment should appropriately reflect the special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council and take into account the relatively limited capacity of the developing countries to contribute in financial terms. The special formula currently in use for most of the peace-keeping operations should be continued.

(c) Voluntary contributions in cash and in kind should continue to be encouraged, as complementary to assessed contributions. Efforts should be made to enlarge the circle of voluntary contributors (regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, private persons and enterprises).

(d) The Committee should recommend that the costs of UNFICYP be met by assessed contributions.

(e) The idea of additional contributions by those who benefit most from a specific peace-keeping operation, or the parties to a conflict, should be studied. Such contributions should apply from the inception of an operation and be adjusted in the event of the renewal of the mandate.

(f) Member States might make contributions available as advances or offer voluntary contributions as grants in cash or as supplies and services acceptable to the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General's report on the different missions should include all voluntary contributions and the amounts not being reimbursed to troop contributors.

(g) Ways and means of diversifying funding sources, and of achieving maximum economy without undermining the effectiveness of the operation, should be explored. The needs of the system should be publicized by the Department of Public Information.

(h) Action should be taken to ensure the financial/budgetary capacity of the Secretary-General to respond swiftly to any possibility of conflict.

(i) The Working Capital Fund should be increased to secure the financing of the start-up phase of peace-keeping operations.

(j) The Secretary-General's trust fund should be increased.

(k) The setting up of a special voluntary fund should be considered, to finance the initial stages of the operations, with the assistance of major international corporations, non-governmental organizations and private holdings. A pledging conference should be held to that end.

2. Responsibilities of States and of the United Nations

(a) Member States should pay their assessed contributions in full and on time.

(b) The United Nations should increase its efforts to reimburse troop-contributing countries, particularly developing countries, in respect of some of the earlier operations that were financed through assessed contributions.

(c) The United Nations should reimburse the Governments for making available civilian personnel for peace-keeping.

3. Cost-effectiveness

(a) Peace-keeping operations should be conducted in an efficient and cost-effective manner and all practical aspects of operations should be examined with that in mind.

(b) A study should be conducted on ways and means of adjusting United Nations administrative and financial rules in order to achieve cost-effectiveness.

(c) Better economy should be achieved through standardization.

(d) Global tendering for procurement of equipment, supplies and services for peace-keeping operations should be adopted.

(e) The possibility of Member States providing voluntary transportation, communication and medical services personnel, as well as equipment with personnel to operate it, should be further explored.

C. Legal and operational issues

1. Legal issues and standard agreements

(a) A generally acceptable set of political and legal principles for peace-keeping operations should be formulated, on the basis of an overview of positive experiences (including UNTAG).

(b) A definition of peace-keeping operations should be elaborated, in the light of the recent widening of tasks assigned to these operations, in order to

determine the political, legal and administrative foundations of peace-keeping operations.

(c) Standard agreements between the United Nations and troop-contributing States should be elaborated, concerning details of States' participation, including duration of troops and matériel, role of military and civilian personnel and areas of deployment.

(d) In standard agreements, the civilian personnel should be considered as ancillary to the military personnel.

(e) A study to determine rules and procedures for civilian personnel in operational areas should be conducted.

2. Issues relating to host countries

(a) A model status-of-forces agreement between the United Nations and host countries should be prepared by the Secretary-General, with the approval of the Security Council.

(b) Status-of-forces agreements should include provisions regarding the support to be provided by the host country.

(c) United Nations peace-keeping operations should be undertaken with the specific consent of the host country or countries.

(d) United Nations peace-keeping operations should be carried out with due respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country or countries concerned.

(e) Priority should be given to the question of impartiality and objectivity of forces.

(f) A study should be conducted on the role of the host countries in providing local support (transport, technical staff, accommodation and other facilities), with a view to determining the general obligations of a host country in assisting United Nations peace-keeping forces. This support should be provided both at the initial deployment stage and in the ongoing functioning of those operations.

(g) The responsibility of host countries and the parties to a conflict to respect and safeguard the security of United Nations peace-keepers should be discussed.

3. Issues relating to contributing countries

(a) From the outset of the conception of a new operation, major personnel- and finance-contributing countries should be consulted on the establishment and operation of peace-keeping activities and kept fully informed, as well as given opportunities to submit suggestions to the Security Council and the Secretariat.

(b) The feasibility of the rotation of troop contributors in peace-keeping operations of long duration should be studied.

(c) The composition and rotation of United Nations peace-keeping operations - both military and civilian contigents - should reflect a broad geographical representation.

(d) Contingents should be rotated with greater frequency.

(e) Participation of the permanent members of the Security Council in various forms, including allocation of military contingents, should be considered.

4. Effectiveness of operations

(a) The question of consolidating the potential of United Nations forces and providing them with the necessary means and support to ensure the implementation of the decisions adopted by the United Nations and, above all, the Security Council should be considered.

(b) Informal briefings by the Secretariat on the operational and practical aspects of peace-keeping, including review of current operations, should be continued.

(c) Peace-keeping operations should be periodically reviewed with a view to effecting economies and other improvements. They should be adapted to changing circumstances by modifying their composition, strength, character, deployment and mandate whenever necessary.

(d) Standardization of procedures should remain subject to the specific characteristics of every operation.

(e) The Secretary-General should be requested to prepare a detailed review of the UNTAG operation, highlighting those features which were unusual or novel and which might carry implications for future operations.

(f) A compilation of experiences gained in the latest operations should be prepared, with special reference to the use of civilians and co-operation between the military and civilian components.

5. Training

(a) Regional and international seminars on United Nations peace-keeping operations should be held in order, inter alia, to facilitate exchange of information and experience.

(b) Courses offered by existing training centres in various countries should be made available to trainees of other countries, and should be open to instructors of other countries as required.

(c) Training should be co-ordinated regionally.

(d) The Special Committee should consider the feasibility and cost benefits of the establishment of an international training centre for peace-keeping under United Nations auspices.

(e) A training programme for national military contingents earmarked for peace-keeping operations should be organized under the auspices of the United Nations Secretariat.

(f) A small nucleus of United Nations trainers to "train the trainers" of national peace-keeping operations should be set up, with the help of a generous host country.

(g) An expert group should be established in the United Nations to explain the specific needs of the Organization, to assist in co-ordinating the programmes of various training centres, to organize seminars and to prepare and update training manuals.

(h) The Special Committee should consider the elaboration of a training manual that Member States could use as a guideline in national training programmes.

(i) An analytical study of guidelines for training of military and civilian personnel should be conducted.

(j) Training and operational manuals should be prepared for civilian personnel such as elections supervisors and civilian police. Such manuals should include, in particular, a description of the line of authority and procedures for the training and safety of civilian personnel.

(k) Further consideration should be given to the utility of including in-theatre training programmes and advisory teams in appropriate peace-keeping operations. Such teams can assist in the development of common operating procedures and training schemes to bridge different capabilities and to improve the efficiency of the operation overall.

D. Institutional issues

1. Issues relating to the United Nations Secretariat

(a) The Secretariat should be temporarily reinforced with experts in the drafting of manuals and operating procedures, to prepare special studies requested by different United Nations bodies, and to assist during periods of increased work-loads.

(b) The Secretariat should be strengthened in preparing and planning for operations.

(c) The Senior Planning and Monitoring Group should further examine the possible consolidation of posts at United Nations Headquarters as a means of increasing efficiency.

(d) A permanent mechanism should be established in the Secretariat for the transmission of information on peace-keeping operations to the Special Committee at the time of its annual meetings. The information should be similar to that which the Secretary-General provides to the Security Council.

(e) The Office of the Military Adviser to the Secretary-General should include sufficient staff, with appropriate levels of training and experience, to manage current operations, plan for contingency operations and maintain the necessary office documentation related to peace-keeping.

(f) The Secretary-General should be requested to prepare an analytical report on the Secretariat organs with responsibility for peace-keeping operations.

2. Other institutional issues

(a) The Military Staff Committee should be used on a periodic basis as a consultative organ of military experts members of the Security Council, with the participation of representatives of other States, primarily troop-contributing countries, in order to discuss the nature of the military and political situation at locations where United Nations troops are stationed, geographical or other peculiarities of the region, material and technical support, etc.

(b) Multilateral and regional centres for reducing the risk of war should be established, under the auspices of the United Nations.

(c) The establishment of a formal or informal advisory mechanism, including especially troop contributors and other substantial contributors to peace-keeping operations, should be studied.

(d) The Special Committee should consider the question of an appointment by the Security Council, by means of its enabling resolution, of an ad hoc advisory committee for each peace-keeping operation, comprised primarily, if not exclusively, of troop-contributing States, with the role of advising the Secretary-General on the conduct of the peace-keeping operation.

(e) An expert group of the Special Committee, which could meet inter-sessionally, should be established as an informal forum for discussion and exchange of views related to technical and operational aspects of peace-keeping operations.

(f) The activities of all United Nations agencies in an area of operation should be co-ordinated.

E. Uses of peace-keeping

The following issues should be considered:

(a) Elaboration of a generally acceptable approach to the use of United Nations multinational forces as a peace-keeping instrument to strengthen confidence, promote law and order, and ensure universal security;

(b) Elaboration of practical legal norms for United Nations naval operations, with a view to ensuring the safety of navigation;

(c) Expansion of peace-keeping operations to maritime units;

(d) Use of operations for tasks relating to monitoring of free, fair and democratic elections;

(e) The question of whether the United Nations could administer as well as supervise elections as part of a peace-keeping operation;

(f) The question of whether the United Nations could administer a sovereign State if it were invited to do so by the host as part of a peace-keeping operation;

(g) Use of operations for verifying multilateral agreements;

(h) Use of operations in the arms control field, verification or confidence-building measures;

(i) The possibility of providing assistance in maintaining law and order in the course of peace-keeping operations;

(j) Use of operations in the struggle against international terrorism;

(k) Potential of operations in the struggle against nuclear piracy;

(l) Use of operations in combating illicit drug trafficking;

(m) Use of operations in assisting States suffering from ecological disasters;

(n) Involvement of United Nations forces in helping to solve humanitarian problems (refugees, prisoners of war, etc.);

(o) Setting up of United Nations observation posts in areas of tension;

(p) Possibility of dispatching, for example, technical, fact-finding observer and good offices missions to areas of potential conflicts as a separate preventive and confidence-building measure, or as a precursor to other peace-keeping operations;

(q) Means of enabling the Secretary-General to dispatch missions swiftly in order to prevent conflicts;

(r) Undertaking studies should be encouraged to examine the possibility of new fields of peace-keeping as the United Nations adapts to changing circumstances;

(s) The role of peace-keeping operations and the possible role of regional organizations in resolving existing conflicts and preventing new ones should be considered;

(t) The concerns expressed by some States about future uses of peace-keeping and similar operations should be addressed.

F. Other issues

(a) The basic principles that have so far been followed in the establishment of peace-keeping operations should be reaffirmed and upheld as the guidelines for future operations. Specifically, the principles of co-operation among the parties to the conflict and the principle of the consent by the host State must be guaranteed.

(b) All papers and documents requested in General Assembly resolution 44/49 should be submitted to the Special Committee and, if necessary, discussed before they go to the Assembly for final approval, in accordance with paragraph 15 of the resolution.

(c) At the current session, the Committee should review the implementation and follow-up of the recommendations made last year and further build upon the consensus reached.

(d) Peace-keeping operations should be combined with political action or conflict-settlement agreements.

(e) Mandates of long-lasting operations should be continuously reviewed in the light of political and other developments.

(f) A peace-keeping operation is a temporary measure and no alternative to a political settlement.

(g) Ways of avoiding a peace-keeping operation becoming a permanent arrangement should be considered.

(h) An international memorial, based on the 1988 Nobel Prize for Peace theme, should be commissioned by the Secretary-General to honour the service of United Nations peace-keepers since 1948.

(i) The United Nations should organize an international essay contest and encourage institutions and universities to offer courses on peace-keeping operations.